

**Amendments to the Claims:**  
**Listing of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-7 (canceled)

8. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a coding sequence for a ~~CZF-2 protein or a variant thereof, wherein the CZF-2 protein variant~~ that comprises a KRAB domain at its amino acid terminus, a spacer region, 12 zinc-finger domains, and an amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to the full-length sequence set forth in SEQ ID. NO. 4.

9. (currently amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 ~~8~~, wherein the ~~CZF-2 protein variant~~ comprises a sequence which is at least 95% identical to the full-length sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 4.

10. (currently amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 8, wherein the ~~CZF-2 protein variant~~ comprises a sequence which is at least 97% identical to the full-length sequence set forth SEQ ID NO. 4.

11. (currently amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 9 ~~8~~, wherein the ~~CZF-2 protein variant~~ is immunoreactive with an antibody produced by immunizing an animal with a protein comprising the full-length amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 4.

12. (currently amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 8, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a sequence which ~~hybridizes under highly stringent conditions to~~ is identical to the full-length coding sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO. 3.

13. (currently amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 8, wherein the CZF-2 protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO. 4.

14. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of: (a) an isolated polynucleotide that comprises a fragment of ~~comprising a sequence which hybridizes under highly stringent conditions to a sequence comprising, consecutively, nucleotide 25 through nucleotide 1581 of SEQ ID. NO. 3, wherein said fragment is at least 210 nucleotides in length;~~ (b) an isolated polynucleotide that is at least 210 nucleotides in length and comprising ~~a sequence which is complementary to at least 210 consecutive nucleotides in a sequence which hybridizes under highly stringent conditions to a sequence comprising, consecutively, extending from~~ nucleotide 25 through nucleotide 1581 of SEQ ID. NO. 3; ~~(c) an isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence which hybridizes under highly stringent conditions to a sequence comprising, consecutively, nucleotide 163 through nucleotide 423 of SEQ ID. NO. 3; and (d) an isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence which is complementary to a sequence which hybridizes under highly stringent conditions to a sequence comprising, consecutively, nucleotide 163 through nucleotide 423 of SEQ ID. NO. 3.~~

15-34 (canceled)

35. (new) An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of (a) an isolated polynucleotide that comprises all or a fragment of nucleotide 163 through nucleotide 423 of SEQ ID. NO. 3, wherein said polynucleotide is at least 210 nucleotides in length; and (b) an isolated polynucleotide that is at least 210 nucleotides in length and complementary to at least 210 consecutive nucleotides in a sequence extending from nucleotide 163 through nucleotide 423 of SEQ ID. NO. 3.

36. (new) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 8, further comprising a promoter linked to the coding sequence and, optionally, a selectable marker gene.

37. (new) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 8, wherein a tag of from about 2 to 65 amino acids are attached to the amino terminus, the carboxy terminus or within the sequence of the protein.